Backyard Produce Garden 2- The Giving Garden

[www.backyard-produce-project.wikispaces.com](http://www.backyard-produce-project.wikispaces.com)

**Table of contents**

1. **What to do & How to Post……………………1**
2. **Harvesting………………………………………….,2**
3. **Watering and fixing irrigation tape…….3**
4. **Weeding……………………………………………...3**
5. **Row preparation…………………………………4**
6. **Bug check……………………………………………5**
7. **Insect sprays and pellets………………5 & 6**
8. **Fertilizing……………………………………..6 & 7**
9. **Building a trellis………………………………….7**
10. **Animal Issues…………………………………….8**
11. **Composting…………………………………8 & 9**
12. **Seed preparation………………………………9**
13. **Plant diseases…………………………………10**
14. **Guidelines for sanitizing tools………..10**
15. **How to Plant a Row…………………………11**
16. **Plant Growing Guide………………….11-13**

What to do & How to Post on the garden Blog

For continuity of work, check the gardens website before you go to the garden each day.

* [www.backyard-produce-project.wikispaces.com](http://www.backyard-produce-project.wikispaces.com)
* Click on garden 2 on the left hand side
* Click on garden 2 blog; scroll down until you see your day and instructions will be posted for what needs to be done. For each day in the garden you will post on the blog.
* **To post on the Blog:** Go back to the website, click on garden 2, click on garden 2 blog, click on edit in upper right hand corner, Please tell WHO WAS THERE, WHAT YOU DID, WHAT YOU OBSERVED, and ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS. After you’ve finished typing, click save, in the upper right hand corner.
* **To post on the Harvest Record** (on harvest days)**-** in addition to posting what you did on the blog, you’ll be posting weights on the harvest record.
* Click on Garden 2 harvest record, click edit, add weight under each item, and click save.

**Thank You!**

**1**

Harvesting

Harvest days in winter are **Monday,** for spring and summer **Monday** and **Thursday**. Subject to change.

Check website garden 2 blog for guidelines on what to harvest. If not sure, ask yourself if it looks like something you would buy in the supermarket.

(Sometimes, towards the end of the plants production, you will be asked to pick the whole row whether or not the veggies look ready- because new plants will be ready soon and the row needs prepping).

Harvest produce & place in plastic baskets found on the workbench in garden 2.

Bring to garden 1 and weigh on the scale (weigh and record in pounds and remember to subtract weight of basket).

Weigh each type of produce separately

Place in plastic grocery bag or cardboard box

Bring bagged produce to the car of the person from garden 1 or 2 who’s delivering. Please have all produce harvested, weighed, and **ready for delivery by 9:30am.**

Post weights in the Garden 2 Harvest Record located on the garden Wikispaces website, as noted on page 1.

**2**

Watering

**Hand water**

* Succulent garden at front gate
* Herb garden in cement blocks by the garden table
* Plant at trellis outside fence near pepper tree
* Hand water new plants until established

**To fix a leak in the irrigation tape**

Check the irrigation tapes for leaks. Usually you can tell if there’s a leak in a row by soil erosion creating a washout.

* Turn off the water at the end of the row
* Get an irrigation connector (small black tube that screws at both ends located in the shed’s toolbox, labeled irrigation).
* Get scissors or pruners
* Cut out hole in tube and screw in connector at both ends
* Turn water back on
* You can also refer to Gardening Guidelines on the gardens website.

Weeding

* Pull all weeds in the garden. Look between the plants to pull weeds. These are the most important weeds to pull because they take away the nutrients from the plants.
* **\*Important\*-** Put weeds in the trash can labeled for weeds only; we don’t want to contaminate the compost.

**3**

Row Preparation

* Remove all plants and their roots. Put them in compost pile #1 (the side closest to the trash cans). Chop them up into about 6-8 inch pieces.  Weeds and diseased plant cuttings should be placed in the green waste can, not in any of the compost bin.
* Clean the row of leaf litter and weeds
* Sanitize all digging tools and rake in bleach solution for 10 minutes, then rinse off with water. Use long handled shovels in the shed outside of garden 1.
* Move irrigation tape off the row and turn off water. Spigot is at the end of row.
* Turn the soil down the length of the row, to the depth of the shovel blade.

## Formula for Refurbishing

* 1 20-qt bag of worm castings  
  ½ bag of chicken manure  
  9 cups of granular fertilizer (this refers to a regular 8-oz measuring cup) its labeled Dr. Earth, located in a trash can by the shed.  
  4-6 five-gallon buckets of mixed compost (or one wheelbarrow full).
* Turn all amendments into the soil
* Use rake to level top (make it flat)
* Put the irrigation tape back on the row and turn water back on.

**4**

Bug Check

* Inspect plants for any indications of pest activity, such as, holes in the leaves, wilted leaves, & more obviously spotting insects, worms, or snails. Ants and ladybugs are good as they eat aphids.
* Check all around the leaves on the plant to identify the culprit. Depending on what type of insect you find, this will help determine which kind of spray to use.
* As a general rule we spray with BT &/Safer soap every two weeks as a preventive measure.

Insect sprays and pellets

\*\*\***May combine Safer and BT in one sprayer**\*\*\*

* **Safer Insecticidal Soap-** For use with aphids, spider mites, mealy bugs, and whiteflies.
* Use a green handled pump sprayer found in the blue Tupperware container along the fence. Empty any remaining contents outside of the garden.
* Add 1 Tablespoon of Safer soap to the sprayer, then fill with water.
* Pump sprayer to add pressure then spray the row. Pay close attention to the leaves that have the bugs and spray the underside of leaves, as the spray must come into direct contact with pest.

**5**

Insect sprays and pellets, cont.

**BT (Thuride/** **Bacillus thuringiensis)-** For use with caterpillars.

* Use a green handled pump sprayer found in the blue Tupperware container along the fence. Empty any remaining contents outside of the garden.
* Add 1 Tablespoon of BT to the sprayer, then fill with water.
* Pump sprayer to add pressure, then spray entire row under the leaves

**Sluggo-** snails only

**Sluggo Plus-** snails, pill bugs, and pincher bugs (cost 3x’s more then Sluggo).

* Located in our plastic containers or from shed/workbench in garden 1)
* Sprinkle very lightly throughout the garden, being careful not to get on leaves- it will burn them.

Fertilizing

* **Bio-Flora:** Is a specialty fertilizer. It’s granular. Use 3-6 cups/50 ft. row. Needs to be **“side-dressed”-** dig a shallow trench next to the drip tape, 6 to 8 inches from the plants, sprinkle fertilizer evenly, recover with soil, and water in with hose.
* **Aggrand:** liquid fertilizer, used on cucumbers and plants with heavy, long leaves making it difficult to use a granular fertilizer. Mix as directed with one watering can of water/row. Water into soil with hose.

**6**

Fertilizing cont.

* **Fish Emulsion (FE):** Liquid fertilizer should be used with leafy veggies like cabbage, lettuce, broccoli, bell peppers, cauliflower, beans, and melons.

Add 4 Tablespoons of FE to watering can and fill with water. Use one can per row.

* **Pre-Plant Fertilizer:** Granular fertilizer used when refurbishing a row. General rule lasts for 4 weeks, before need to apply fertilizer to crop.

Building a Trellis

* **Tomatoes:** You will need to drive a 6-foot stake into the ground every 2 plants. Stakes located in the playhouse shed up the hill.
* Use a hammer (located in the Rubbermaid shed outside of garden 1).
* Using twine (also located in Rubbermaid shed) wrap around the stakes and tomatoes all the way **down the row** and **back on the other side.**
* **Peas:** Hammer stakes every 3 to 4 feet apart
* Use small metal trellises (located in the playhouse shed up the hill). Ties these in between the stakes for extra support.

**7**

Animal Issues

* Look for damage to the row in the soil or large plants. These are typically signs of a large animal, such as a raccoon or a gopher. If plants aren’t damaged and only soil dug, animal is probably looking for grubs in the soil.
* Document the type of damage seen and let staff know, and recover holes.

Composting

* All plant material, **except weeds (go in the trash can labeled for weeds only) and ice plant/pickle weed  (please put it in black trash bags for garden debris pickup),**will need to be cut into small pieces and brought over to compost bin #1 (closest to trash cans).
* Please help out by chopping up big stems, roots, & leaves. There's no specific size but large pieces decompose more slowly than small pieces. And very large stems/roots (from broccoli, for example) should be tossed into the green waste can rather than the bins. If you run out of time, ask the next teams to help finish the job. Also, if there's a sheet of cardboard on top of the green waste, toss the new stuff under it not on top. It's sort of a cover to keep moisture in
* If the bin is too full, prune the pieces into even smaller pieces and put into compost bin #2.

**8**

Composting cont.

* **Working the finished compost pile:**
* Get a wheelbarrow
* Shovel
* Find the screen and place on wheelbarrow
* Shoveling 1 shovel full of each kind of compost (there’s bio-stake, mushroom, & Miramar compost) mix the compost through the shifter screen.
* When wheelbarrow is full, dump the contents into the pile labeled mixed compost.
* Replace all tools back to their proper place.

Seed Preparation

* Seeds need about 6 weeks to grow; you will need to estimate when your row will be done with the current plants.
* Item’s needed: 72 cell tray, seed starting soil, seeds, plus a sprayer for water
* Fill tray with soil to the top
* Make a small hole in each of the cells
* Put one seed into each cell and recover the hole with soil
* Spray with water
* Label the tray as garden #2 and what plant you seeded and date.
* Bring to the greenhouse

**9**

Plant Diseases

* The color of the leaves are an indicator that something is wrong
* **Powdery Mildew-** Is a white mildew on top of the leaves. Spray with **Serenade.**
  + **Serenade** is located in the shed of garden #1
  + It might be in concentrate form. Use 1 Tablespoon of concentrate into an empty green handled sprayer, sill with water then spray over the infected plants.
* **Wilts-** Typically look like yellowing or browning of the leaves.
  + Remove the leaves and or branch that are wilting.
  + Put these into the trash can labeled green waste
  + Sanitize any tools you used.

Guidelines for Sanitizing Tools

Sanitize any tools used that are used between all gardens to prevent cross contamination.

* To prevent spreading disease between gardens and between rows, sterilize all tools with a 10% bleach solution. Soak tools for 10 minutes or more, rinse with water, and dry. Good idea to use a bucket or container with a lid to slow down evaporation. Solution can be kept and used for several weeks.

**10**

How to Plant a Row

* Each item has their own spacing that they need to be planted at.
* Tools that are needed are a spacing bar (we have a piece of wood that is marked with spacing inches) and a small trowel.
* Instructions for each type of plant will be provided as needed
* Plant on the downhill side of the drip tape unless told otherwise

Plant Growing Guide

**Tomatoes:**

* Space 18” apart when planting
* After about 3 weeks place 6’ stakes between every other tomato
* When tomatoes are large enough start typing up the plants to the stakes
* At first sign of a tomato, fertilize entire row with Bio-Flora. Repeat every two weeks
* AT 4 weeks start spraying with BT. Then spray every 2 weeks

**11**

Plant Growing Guide cont.

**Zucchini squash:**

* Space 18” apart
* About 4 weeks after planting, fertilize with Bio-Flora. Repeat 2 weeks.
* Start spraying with Safer Soap every 2 weeks
* When harvesting zucchini’s, prune the leaf off of the plant nearest that zucchini and diseased old leaves nearest the root

**Bell Pepper:**

* Space 12” apart and zig zag between the drip tape.
* After 4 weeks, fertilize with Fish Emulsion. Repeat every two weeks
* Spray with Safer Soap every 2 weeks

**Broccoli/Cauliflower/Cabbage:**

* Space 18” apart. Plant zig zag between the drip tape
* Spray with Safer Soap and BT every 2 weeks
* After 4 weeks start fertilizing with Fish Emulsion, continue once every 2 weeks

**12**

Plant Growing Guide cont.

**Peas:**

* Space every 4” along one side of drip tape
* About 2 weeks after planting, stake plants with trellis’s that are by the blue shed up the hill
* Fertilize with Fish Emulsion once every 2 weeks

**Beans:**

* Space every 4” along both sides of drip tape
* Check for aphids and then start spraying with Safer Soap every 2 weeks
* After 4 weeks start fertilizing with Fish Emulsion

**Melons:**

* Space every 2 feet on one side of the drip tape
* After 2 weeks, start spraying Safer Soap and continue every 2 weeks
* Fertilize with Fish Emulsion every 2 weeks

**13**